

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGUI 01868 041744Z

46

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 INR-07 SP-02 L-03 /028 W

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R 041546Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGUI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7717

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STADIS FOR AF/C//////////

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, EFIN, CT

SUBJECT: EXIM BANK LOAN ARREARAGES

REF: A. BANGUI 1866 B. STATE 243158 C. BANGUI 1838 D. BANGUI 1781

1. AS EXPRESSED REFTEL A, EMBASSY IS CONCERNED OVER EXIM BANK POSITION ADOPTED REFTEL B. ALTHOUGH GOCAR IS NOW WILLING TO PUSH AHEAD ON DEBT RESCHEDULING FOR REASONS STATED REFTEL D PARA 3, THIS PROBLEM IS NOT AMONG GOCAR'S PRIMARY CONCERNS AT THIS TIME. IF EXIM BANK LEAVES THE BALL IN GOCAR'S COURT, IT IS LIKELY THAT PLAY WILL CEASE. AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE GOCAR DOES NOT HAVE THE TECHNICAL EXPERTISE OR MOTIVATION TO PROCEED IN THIS MATTER WITHOUT EXTERNAL PRODDING AND ASSISTANCE. THEY WILL ASSUME THAT IF EXIM IS NOT WILLING TO SEND SOMEONE TO BANGUI THAT USG IS NOT SERIOUS ABOUT PROBLEM. IN ADDITION THEY PROBABLY FEEL THAT IT IS OUR TURN TO COME HERE, SINCE SPECIAL EMISSARY BARKHAN REPRESENTING GOCAR HAS ALREADY BEEN TO WASHINGTON.

2. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE CONTACT EXIM BANK AND IMPRESS UPON THEM THE SERIOUSNESS OF ENGAGING IN BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH GOCAR IN BANGUI AT THIS TIME. IF THE CURRENT OPPORTUNITY FOR PROGRESS IS NOT SEIZED, IT IS LIKELY THAT GOCAR'S INTEREST WILL WANE AND THE ARREARAGES PROBLEM WILL REMAIN A STUMBLING BLOCK IN US/CAR ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL

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RELATIONS FOR SOME TIME TO COME.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, LOANS, ECONOMIC PROGRAMS, DEBT REPAYMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 OCT 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BANGUI01868
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760374-0216
From: BANGUI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761087/aaaacxjp.tel
Line Count: 62
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: 76 BANGUI 1866
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 JUN 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <04 OCT 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EXIM BANK LOAN ARREARAGES
TAGS: EGEN, EFIN, CT, XMB
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006